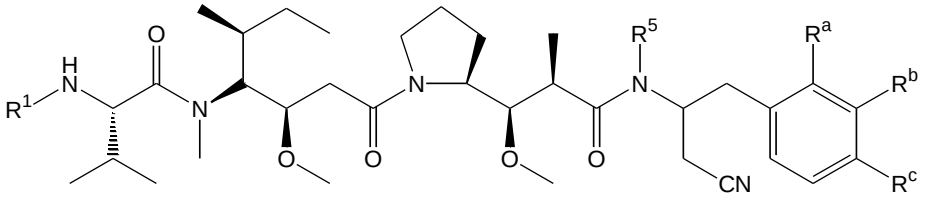
CLAIMS

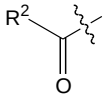
1. A compound having the structural formula (I):



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R^1 is  , wherein R^2 is a unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl or cycloheteroalkyl;

each of R^a, R^b and R^c is selected from H and NR^xR^y, provided that only one of R^a, R^b and R^c is NR^xR^y and each of the others is H;

each of R^x and R^y is independently selected from R, R^r and L-R^z, provided that when one of R^x and R^y is L-R^z or R^r, the other is R;

R^5 is H or CR'_3, wherein each R' is independently H or F;

L is a linker;

R^r is (C=O)-O-$(CH_2)_p$-R^v or (C=O)-$(CH_2)_q$-R^v;

R^v is R, OR, NHR, NR_2, an aryl group or an amino acid;

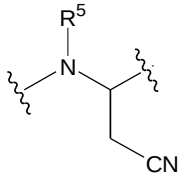
p is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

q is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

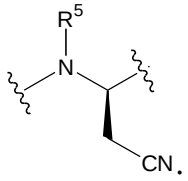
R^z comprises a functional or reactive group; and

R is H or a C_1-C_3 alkyl.

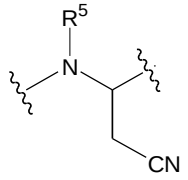
2. The compound of claim 1, wherein



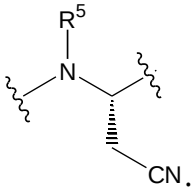
has the following chirality:



3. The compound of claim 1, wherein



has the following chirality:

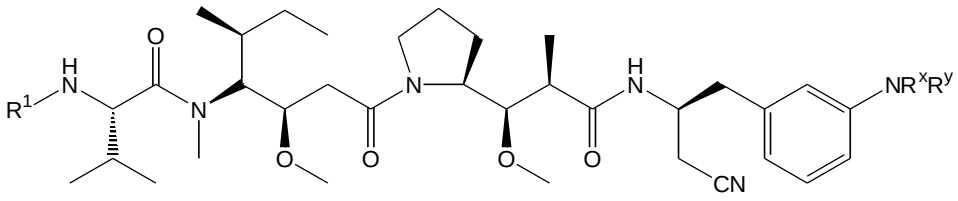


4. The compound of any one of claims 1-3, wherein R^5 is CH_3.

5. The compound of any one of claims 1-3, wherein R^5 is CF_3.

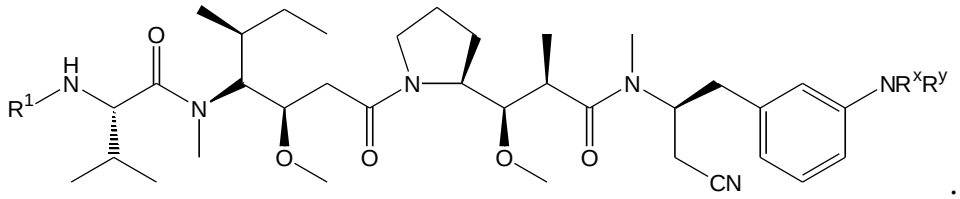
6. The compound of any one of claims 1-3, wherein R^5 is H.

7. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^5 is H, R^a is H, R^b is NR^xR^y, and R^c is H, having the structural formula (III_a):



(III_a)

8. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^5 is CH_3, R^a is H, R^b is NR^xR^y, and R^c is H, having the structural formula (III_b):



(III_b)

9. The compound of claim 7 or 8, wherein R^x is H and R^y is H.

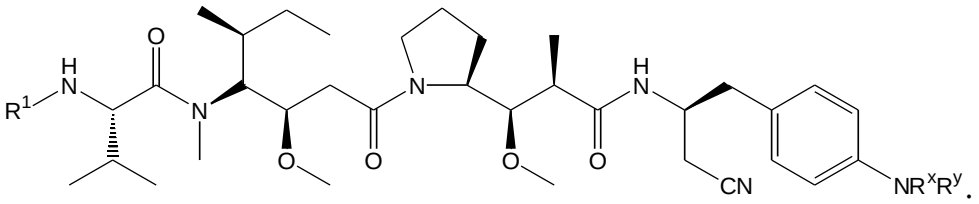
10. The compound of claim 7 or 8, wherein R^x is H or CH_3 and R^y is

$(C=O)\text{-}O\text{-}(CH_2)_p\text{-}R^v$, wherein R^v is R, OR, NHR, NR_2, an aryl group or an amino acid, and *p* is 0, 1, 2 or 3, or

$(C=O)\text{-}(CH_2)_q\text{-}R^v$, wherein R^v is R, OR, NHR, NR_2, an aryl group or an amino acid and *q* is 0, 1, 2 or 3, or

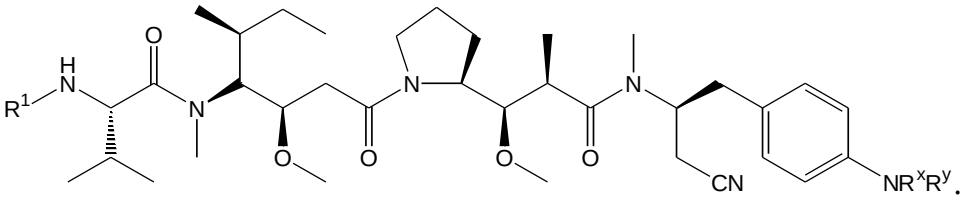
R^y is L-R^z.

11. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^5 is H, R^a is H, R^b is H and R^c is NR^xR^y and, having the structural formula (V_a):



(V_a)

12. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^5 is CH_3, R^a is H, R^b is H and R^c is NR^xR^y and, having the structural formula (V_b):



(V_b)

13. The compound of claim 11 or 12, wherein R^x is H and R^y is H.

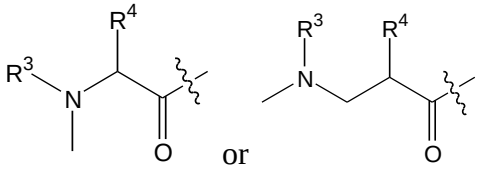
14. The compound of claim 11 or 12, wherein R^x is H or CH_3 and R^y is

$(C=O)\text{-}O\text{-}(CH_2)_p\text{-}R^v$, wherein R^v is R, OR, NHR, NR_2, an aryl group or an amino acid, and *p* is 0, 1, 2 or 3,

$(C=O)\text{-}(CH_2)_q\text{-}R^v$, wherein R^v is R, OR, NHR, NR_2, an aryl group or an amino acid, and *q* is 0, 1, 2 or 3, or

$L\text{-}R^z$.

15. The compound of any one of claims 1-14, wherein R^1 is

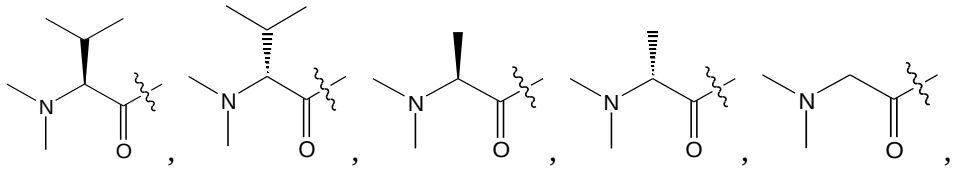


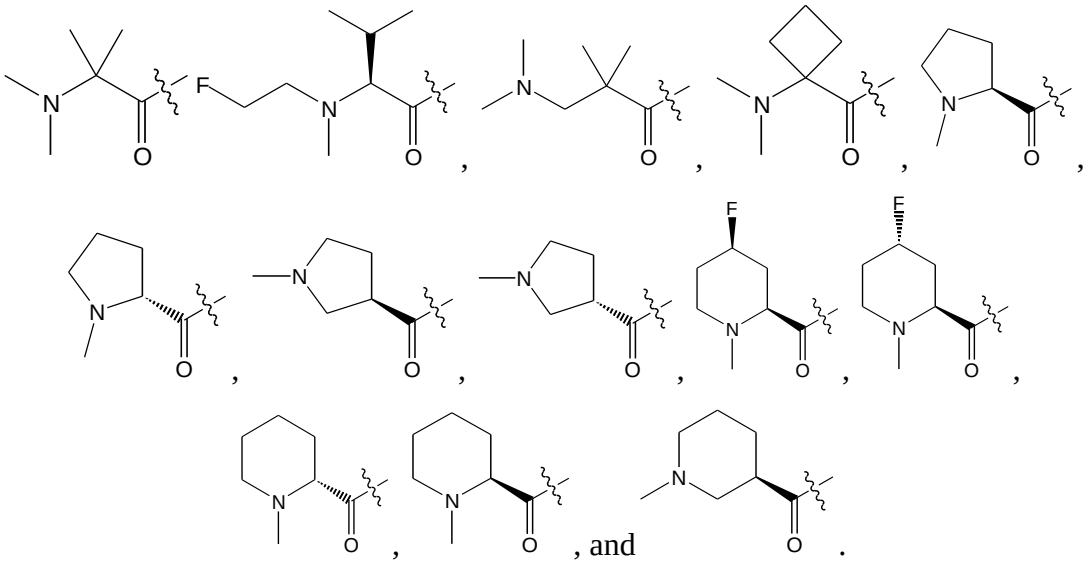
wherein each of R^3 and R^4 is independently H or an unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_5 alkyl, or together with the N and C atoms they are boned to form a 5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl comprising one or more of O, N and S, optionally substituted with one or more of halogen atoms or C_1-C_3 alkyl.

16. The compound of claim 15, wherein R^4 is isopropyl or methyl.

17. The compound of claim 15, wherein R^3 and R^4, together with the N and C atoms they are boned to form a 5-membered or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl comprising N, optionally substituted with one or more of halogen atoms or C_1-C_3 alkyl.

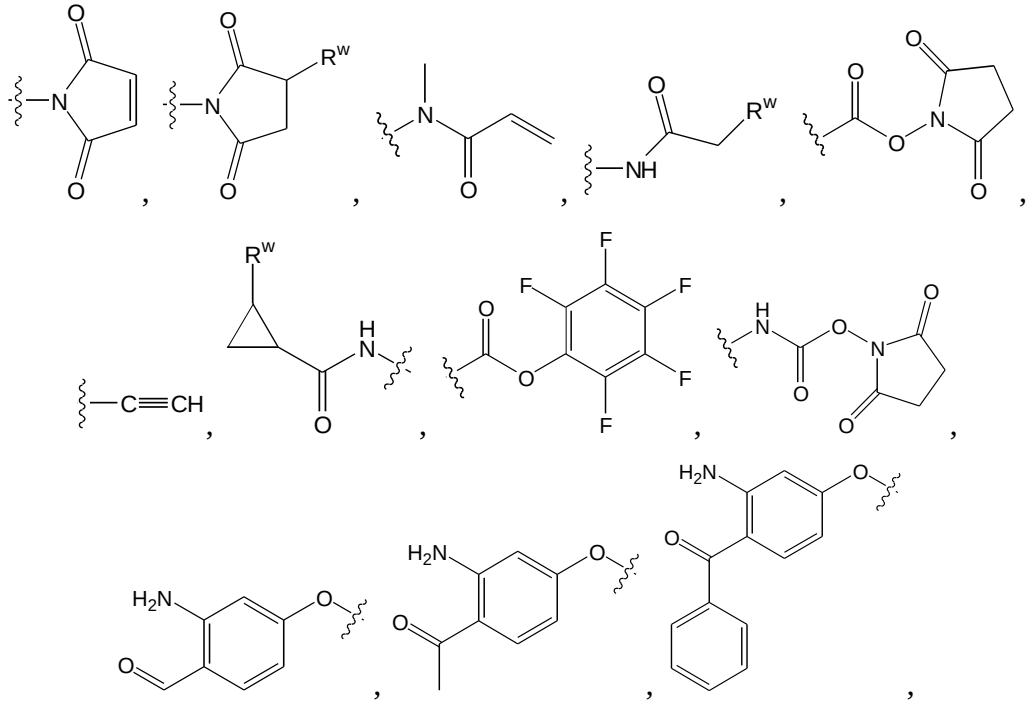
18. The compound of any one of claims 1-17, wherein R^1 is selected from:

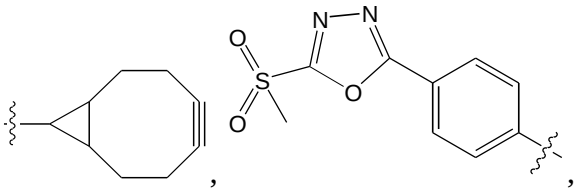
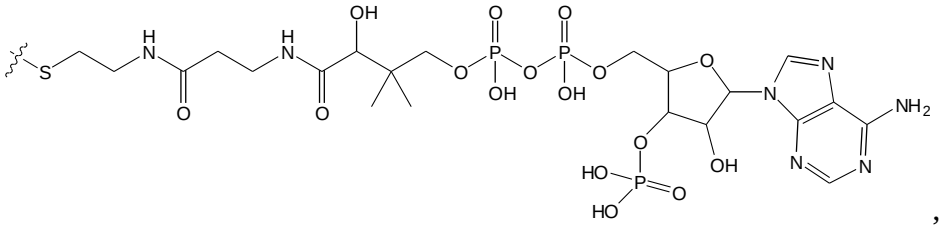
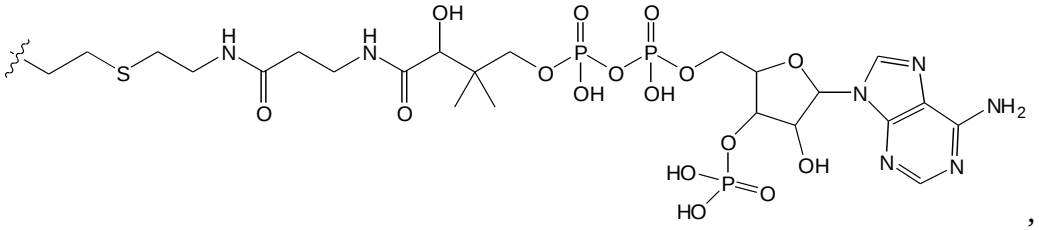
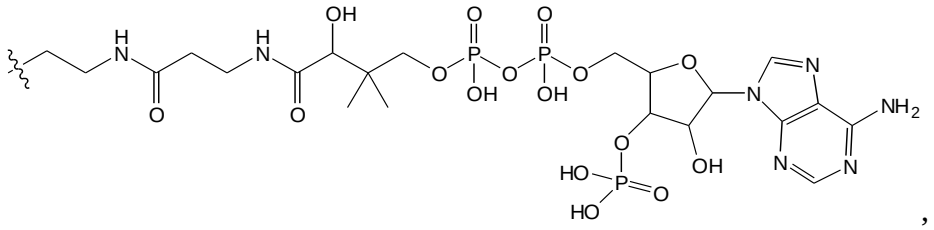
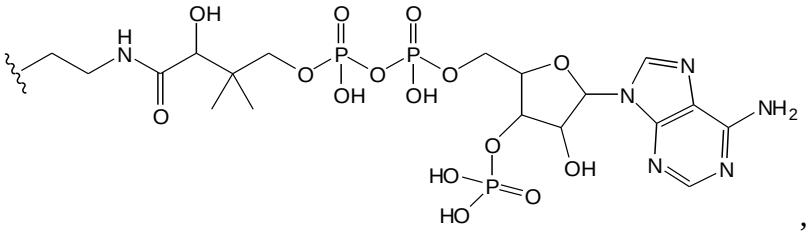
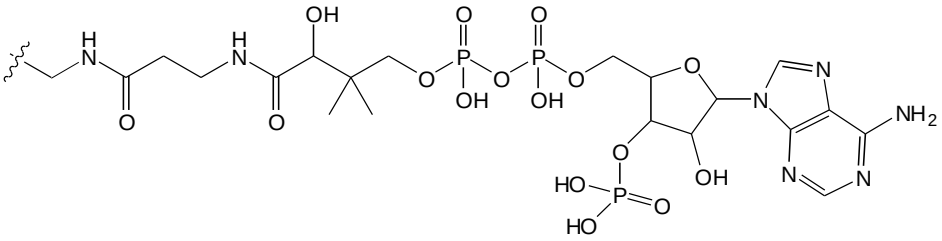




19. The compound of any one of claims 1-18, wherein R^z comprises a functional or reactive group selected from:

$-N_3$, $-NR^uC(=O)CH=CH_2$, -SH, $-SSR^t$, $-S(=O)_2(CH=CH_2)$, $-(CH_2)_2S(=O)_2(CH=CH_2)$, $-NR^uS(=O_2)(CH=CH_2)$, $-NR^uC(=O)CH_2R^w$, $-NR^uC(=O)CH_2Br$, $-NR^uC(=O)CH_2I$, $-NHC(=O)CH_2Br$, $NHC(=O)CH_2I$, $-ONH_2$, $-C(=O)NHNH_2$, $-CO_2H$, $-NH_2$, -NCO, -NCS,



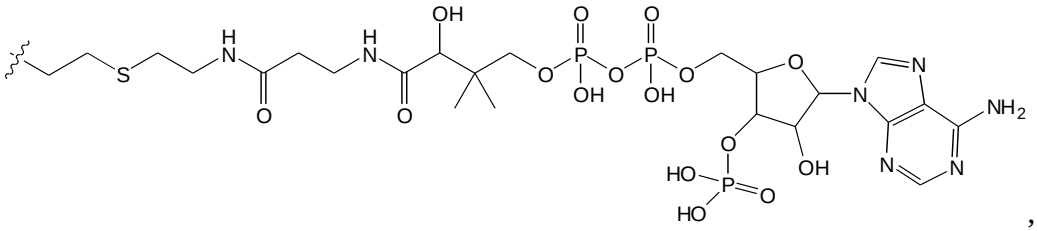

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, or


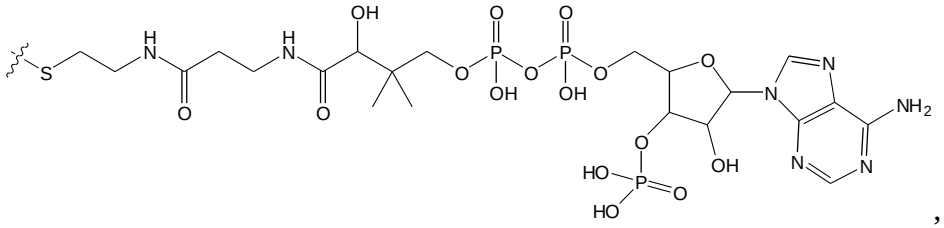
wherein

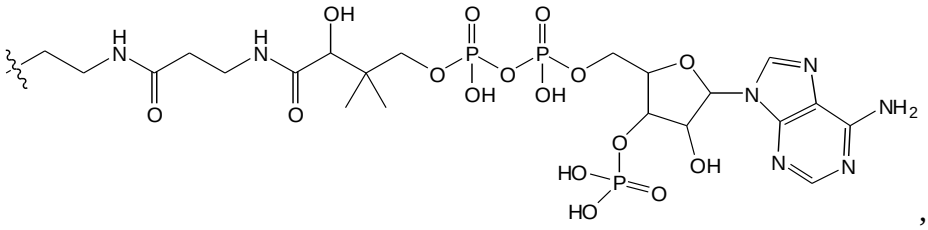
R^u is H or a C_1-C_6 alkyl group,

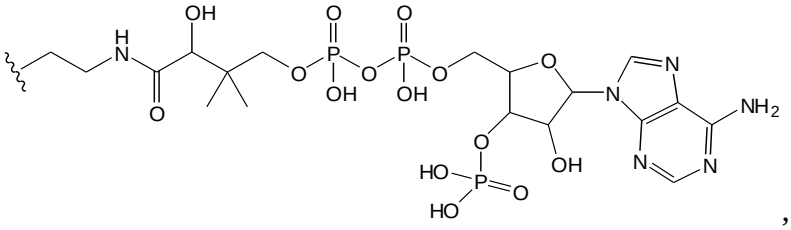
R^t is 2-pyridyl or 4-pyridyl, and

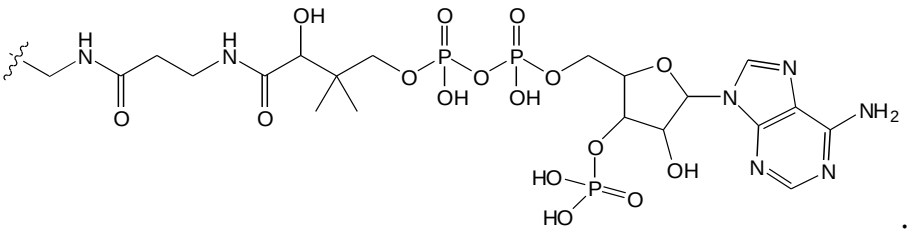
R^w is


,

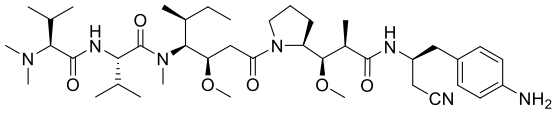

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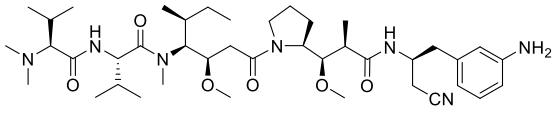

, or


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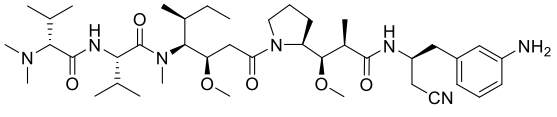
20. A compound selected from the table below:



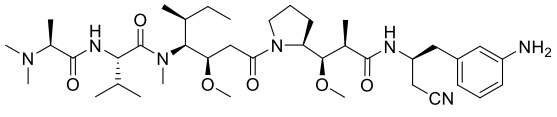
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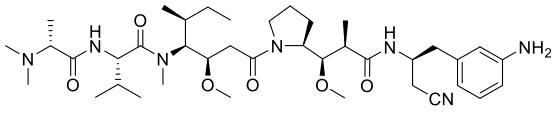
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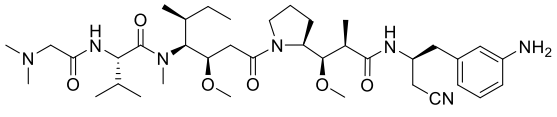
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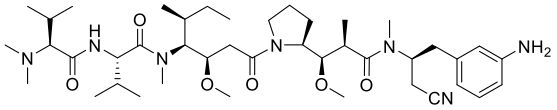
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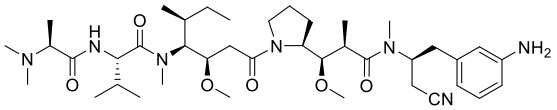
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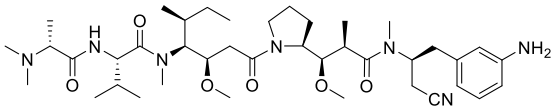
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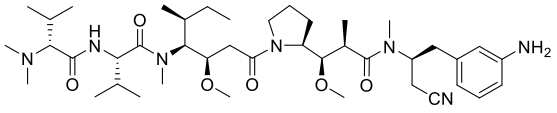
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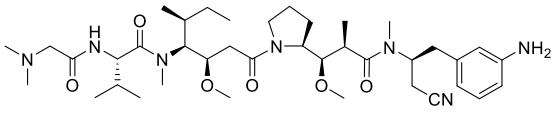
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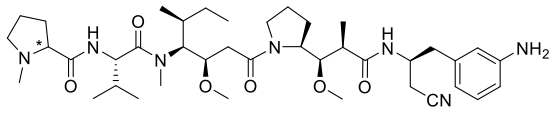
9



10

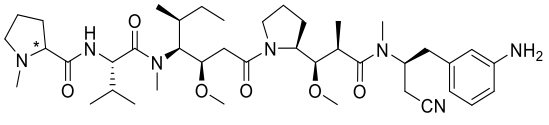


11



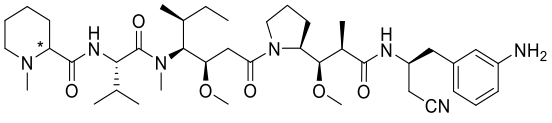
*= (R) or (S)

12, 13



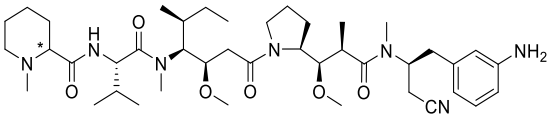
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14,15



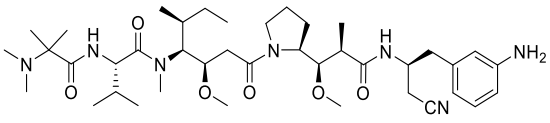
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16,17

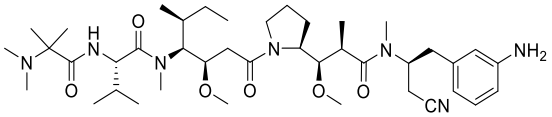


*= (R) or (S)

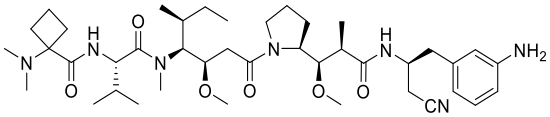
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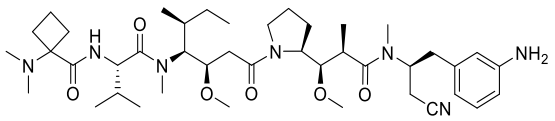
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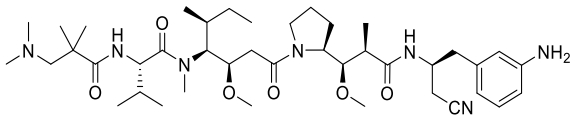
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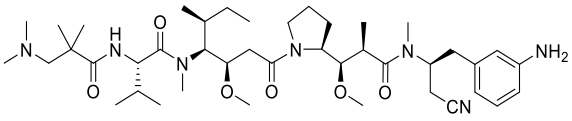
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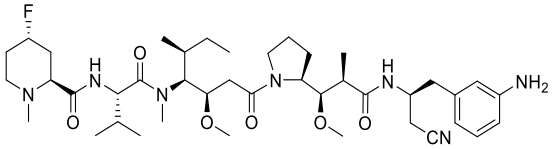
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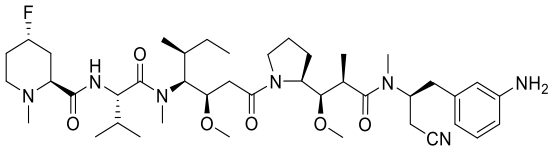
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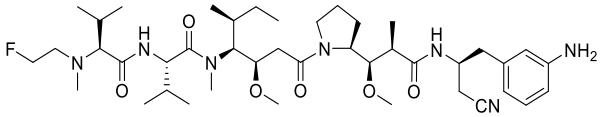
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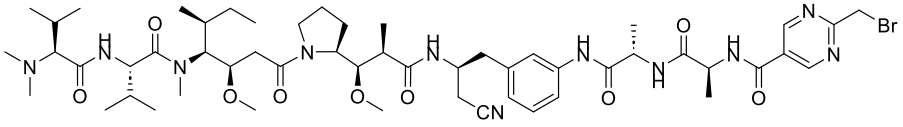
26



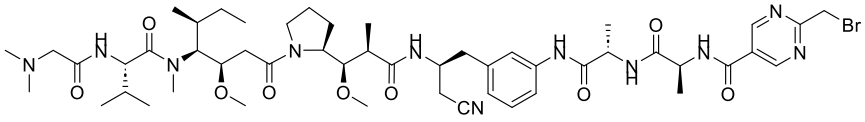
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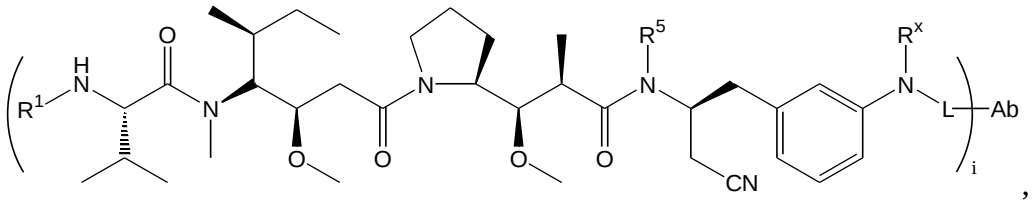


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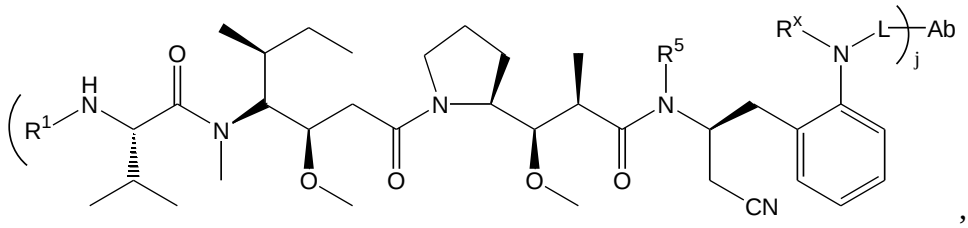
21. A drug-linker conjugate formed by conjugation of a compound of any one of claims 1-20 with a linker.

22. An immunoconjugate formed by conjugation of a compound of any one of claims 1-57, via a linker, with an antigen binding moiety.

23. An immunoconjugate having the structural formula (VI):

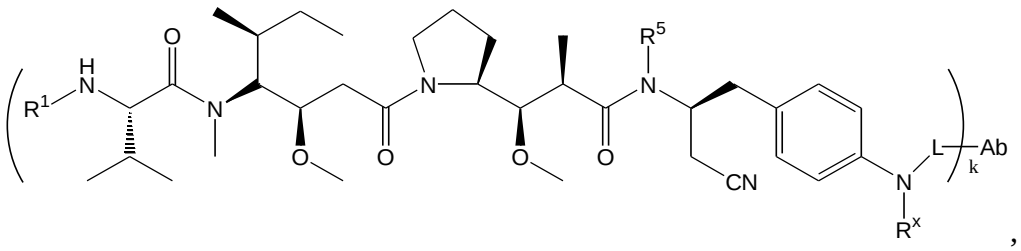


(VI)



, or

(VII)

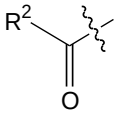


(VIII)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

Ab represents an antigen binding moiety;

R^1 is 

, wherein R^2 is a unsubstituted or substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl or cycloheteroalkyl;

R^x is R;

R^5 is H or CR'_3, wherein each R' is independently H or F;

L is a linker; and

R is H or a C_1-C_3 alkyl;

i is an integer in the range of 1 to about 20.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an immunoconjugate of claim 22 or 23, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, carrier or diluent.

25. Use of an immunoconjugate of claim 22 or 23 for the manufacture of a medicament for treating cancer.